

Benchmark IVd.1.4: Initiate implementation plan (i.e. begin writing policy, meeting with legislators, or seeking funding, etc.).

Evidence of Completion: Quarterly report with summary of implementation activities

Summary of Implementation Activities

The Workgroup on Safety and Well-Being for Immigrant and Refugee Families initiated the now finalized implementation plan in Quarter 4. The activities highlighted in yellow below are those that have already been initiated. Support from the Division of Safety and Permanence and other stakeholders has led to successful implementation activities and the Workgroup anticipates continued success as it moves forward with projects under the Implementation Plan.

Activities already initiated or completed are as follows:

- Statewide Child Welfare and Immigration Training (Completed)

On October 4, 2011, the department in collaboration with the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System hosted an all-day training on serving immigrant children and families in the child welfare system. The training was highly successful with over 60 attendees from across the state, and received very positive evaluation responses with feedback regarding the topics presented. The agenda for this training is attached below.

- Compile and analyze results from Resources Survey; Develop report with evaluative results of survey

Using the online resource “Survey Monkey,” the Workgroup developed a survey to identify existing resources and tools, as well as gaps in resources, policy, and programs throughout the state for effectively serving immigrant and refugee children and families in the child welfare system. The online survey was completed by 158 stakeholders representing over 30 counties. Three questions in the survey required individual study to compile the results. Compilation of answers from two of these questions has been completed, and the information (regarding available local resources) was included in the final publication of the Services and Eligibility Guidebook. A work plan to compile answers to the last question and then develop a summary report for statewide communication is in place.

- Draft guidebook for eligibility of services and outreach (Completed; outreach continues)

The Guidebook was finalized and published by informational memo. Through training and other outreach the Workgroup will continue to share this resource with stakeholders and solicit feedback for continued improvement.

- Finalize and issue Language Access policy

The draft policy has been developed and reviewed by other experts outside of the Workgroup. The policy will undergo final review by the department and the Wisconsin County Human Services Association for an anticipated publication date of May 30, 2012.

- Finalize policies on consular notification for Milwaukee and provide guidance statewide

A policy has been drafted and after review will be ready for publication.

- Explore potential to draft MOUs with consulates

A letter has been sent from the department to the Mexican Consulate in Chicago inviting them to meet with the Workgroup regarding the possibility of MOU development and other consular relations considerations.

- Presentation for WCHSA Spring Conference

Members of the Workgroup will conduct a panel discussion at the conference in late May. Topics will include an overview of the Implementation Plan, a presentation of the Guidebook, county experiences (especially with deported parents), a summary of the survey results, and the draft language access policy.

- Presentation at Adoption Conference

Members of the Workgroup will be presenting at this conference in early May. Topics will include an overview of the Implementation Plan, a presentation of the Guidebook, and a discussion of special topics related to adoption (such as TPR in cases of deported parents, and other placement issues).

Other activities are underway that are not part of the formal Implementation Plan:

- Human Trafficking/Unaccompanied Minors

Due to a heightened awareness of human trafficking cases in Wisconsin, and the issuance of the state's Human Trafficking Protocol, the workgroup has begun studying special topics related to human trafficking and its intersection with child welfare (for immigrant and all other children). The May meeting of the Workgroup will include several statewide experts on human trafficking to gain input on typical human trafficking cases in Wisconsin and what role child welfare agencies should play in serving those victims.

- Training at the Child Welfare Conference

Two experts who presented at the statewide training will be presenting at the statewide Child Welfare Conference in October. Attorney Emily Dudak Taylor will present on "What Every Social Worker Should Know about Immigration" and Judge Ralph Ramirez, Waukesha County Circuit Court, will present on "Working with Interpreters and Immigrant Families."

CY 2011: Implementation Activities Completed				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft language access policy• Statewide Child Welfare and Immigration Training• Statewide survey on resources for serving immigrant/refugee families			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft policy and MOU for contact with foreign consulates• Draft guidebook for eligibility of services and outreach	
2012-2013: Implementation Plan				
Timeframe:	Jan-June 2012	July-Dec 2012	Jan-June 2013	July-Dec 2013
Action Area: Policy Development				
Benchmarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalize and issue Language Access policy• Establish lawyer network• Finalize policies on consular notification for Milwaukee and provide guidance statewide	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore potential to draft MOUs with consulates• First draft policy on placement and care decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalize policy on placement and care decisions and incorporate into existing policies• Begin drafting procedures related to immigration status and case assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalize procedures related to immigration status and incorporate into case assessment and planning policies
Action Area: Training				
Benchmarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review Curriculum for Ongoing Case Worker Trainings• Presentation for WCHSA Spring Conference• Presentation at Adoption Conference• Explore e-learning options to provide training that is accessible year-round	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop training on language access issues• Draft Informational Memo for changes in the curriculum in coordination with Workgroup• Presentation at Judicial Conference• Presentation at GAL conference• Public CW conference (October)• Foster Care Coordinators Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connect with US State Department regarding training opportunities on consular notification• Develop training on Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) and other immigration status issues to incorporate in case worker trainings	

Timeframe:	Jan-June 2012	July-Dec 2012	Jan-June 2013	July-Dec 2013
Action Area: Special Programs				
Benchmarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile and analyze results from Resources Survey • Develop report with evaluative results of survey • Consider development of legislative proposals related to SIJS (for possible inclusion in budgetary process) [may not be necessary with development of pending federal legislation] • Consider development of language access program for consideration in state 2013-15 biennial budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create Resource Action Plan based on Resources Survey report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of language access program • Identify funding sources for legal services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Resource Action Plan • Develop legal services program if funding source available

Immigration and Child Welfare: Practice and Legal Topics Related to Serving Immigrant and Refugee Children and Families in the Child Welfare System

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

9:00am—4:00pm

Kalahari Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells

9:00am—9:15am	Welcome and Introductions
9:15am—10:00am	Undercounted, Underserved: Children and Families in the Child Welfare System <i>Yali Lincroft, MBA, Policy/Program Consultant for First Focus</i>
10:00am—10:15am	Break
10:15am—11:30am	What Every Social Worker Should Know about Immigration <i>Attorney Emily Dudak Taylor, The Law Center for Kids and Families</i>
11:30am—12:00pm	Case Scenario Activity <i>Yali Lincroft</i>
12:00pm—12:45pm	Lunch
12:45pm—1:00pm	Continued Case Scenario Activity
1:00pm—2:00pm	Maintaining Child and Family Contact in Immigration Cases <i>Laurie Melrood, LMSW, Family Services Consultant</i>
2:00pm—2:15pm	Break
2:15pm—3:00pm	Working with Interpreters and Immigrant Families <i>Judge Ralph Ramirez, Waukesha County Circuit Court</i>
3:00pm—3:30pm	Workgroup on the Safety and Well-Being for Immigrant and Refugee Children and Families: Guidebook and Survey <i>Julie Majerus and Allison Olson</i>
3:30pm—4:00pm	Questions and Discussion